

**CLAIMS**

1. A cable splice closure (10) comprising a casing (12) which is capable of being closed around a cable splice, and at least one cable retention means (24) for retaining the end of at least one cable (22) fed into the interior of the closure through or adjacent to a seal (44), the said retention means (24) being capable of being tightened, in use, to seal (44) against and retain the said cable (22) substantially independently of any compressive force applied to the retention means (24) by the casing (12).
2. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the retention means (24) is capable of being opened so that it may be placed substantially around the cable (22) or the seal (44) and the cable (22) and closed to hold the seal (44) against the cable (22).
3. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the said retention means (24) applies a pre-determined load to the seal (44) and cable (22) when closed.
4. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claims 1 to 3 wherein the seal (44) is resilient.
5. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the seal (44) comprises at least one aperture (46) or slot for receiving a length of cable (22) being fed into the closure.
6. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the seal (44) comprises an elastomeric material.
7. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the seal (44) comprises a layer of gel type material and an outer layer of elastomeric material.
8. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 6 or 7 wherein the elastomeric material comprises a thermoplastic elastomer.
9. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the said retention means (24) substantially surrounds the seal (44) and cable (22).

- 12 -

10. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the retention means (24) comprises at least two clamping members which are capable of being brought together to hold the seal against the said cable.

5 11. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the said retention means (24) comprises a pair of clamping members (28, 30) which are pivotally movable with respect to each other.

10 12. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the said clamping members (28, 30) are hinged together.

13. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claims 11 to 12 wherein the said clamping members are generally arcuate so that they are capable of surrounding the said cable (22) and seal (44) when brought together.

15 14. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claims 11 to 13 wherein the clamping members (28, 30) are connected together to provide a clamping ring around the said cable when brought together.

20 15. A cable splice closure as claimed in any of Claims 10 to 14 wherein the said clamping members (28, 30) are held together by fastening means.

16. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 15 wherein the said fastening means is/are hand operable.

25 17. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 15 or Claim 16 wherein the said fastening means comprises a latch (38).

30 18. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the said latch (38) comprises an over the centre type latch.

19. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the said retention

means (24) is retained in the interior of the closure by engagement with the said casing.

20. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the casing parts comprise a pair of half shells (12) which are capable of being brought together along respective  
5 opposing edges thereof to close the closure.

21. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the said casing is provided with fastening (16) means for holding the casing in a closed configuration thereby retaining the said retention means (24) in the interior (20) of the closure.

10 22. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim comprising a plurality of said cable retention means (24).

23. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the casing comprises at  
15 least one open end for feeding the said cable into the interior (20) of the closure, and at least one of the said cable retention means (24) is positioned at the or each open end for closing that end of the closure.

24. A cable splice closure as claimed in Claim 23 wherein a pair of cable retention means  
20 (24) are provided, in spaced relation, at the or each open end of the closure.

25. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the casing comprises at least two casing parts (12) which are capable of being brought together to close the closure.

25 26. A kit of parts for enclosing a cable splice comprising:  
a casing which is capable of being closed to close the closure;  
at least one compressible seal; and,  
at least one cable retention means (24) for retaining the end of at least one cable (22) fed  
into the interior (20) of the closure (10) through or adjacent to a compressible seal (44), the said  
30 retention means (24) being capable of being tightened, in use, to compress the seal (44) around  
the said cable (22) to retain the said cable (22) substantially independently of any force applied  
to the retention means (24) by the casing parts (12).

- 14 -

27. A cable retention unit for a cable splice closure of the type having at least two casing parts (12) which are capable of being closed around a cable splice, the retention unit (24) being capable of being opened so that it may be placed substantially around a cable (22) or cables (22) to be retained, and comprising closure means for applying a pre-determined clamping load to the cables (22) when the retention unit (24) is closed.

28. A cable retention unit as claimed in Claim 27 wherein the closure means comprises at least one over the centre latch (38) means.

29. Cable retention suitable for use as the cable retention means in a closure according to any of claims 1 to 25.

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